



ST CLEMENT'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Friday 18th December 2020



As we reach the end of the Autumn Term and Christmas draws closer, it is inevitable that our minds start, albeit briefly, to drift away from the hard work of our day to day school business, to the festive period itself. Let us remind ourselves that this is one time of year when it is commonplace to find the spirit of human kindness alive and well. Let us embrace this by ensuring that we enjoy ourselves safely but also take time to look out for those nearest and dearest to us and those less fortunate than ourselves.

Being prepared to think of others is a particular strength of our school. This sense of community is, in essence, the true meaning of Christmas; and this sense of community is something that is very special about our school.

I would like to say thank you to all the staff of St Clement's and the children for their hard work throughout the term, and indeed the support we have received from parents, carers and friends of the school in making a difference in our school.

God our Father

As we journey with the Holy Family to Bethlehem, we pray for all who make forced journeys. Give them strength to carry on and courage to walk the road ahead.

As we hear the innkeeper say there is no room, we pray for refugees for whom there is no country. Gather them to yourself and keep them free from harm.

As we contemplate that first Christmas night, we pray for those with nowhere to lay their head. Comfort them in their need and keep them safe.

As we listen to the cry of the infant king, we pray for children everywhere born into poverty. Wrap them in your love, that they may feel your tender mercy.

As we remember the fear of the shepherds in the presence of the angels, we pray for all who are afraid to look ahead. Reassure them with your love and strengthen them to face the future.

As we wake on Christmas morning, we pray you greet us with your shining light.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH

A huge thankyou to Miss Toni, Miss Gilyan and Miss Zaira for cooking such a delicious Christmas lunch on Thursday which was thoroughly enjoyed by pupils. The children were treated to roast chicken with all the trimmings and Apple muffins to follow. The pupils wore their fabulous Christmas hats and a festive time was had by all!



RECEPTION NATIVITY

On Tuesday 8th December, Reception performed their very first Christmas Nativity at St. Clement's School. All the children participated enthusiastically and sang beautifully. They performed confidently on the stage - we are very proud of them all.



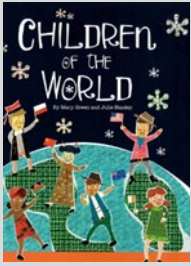
KS1 NATIVITY

Last week, Year 1 and Year 2 have recorded their parts for the KS1 Nativity after weeks of learning song words, play lines and practising playing instruments. The Year 1's retold the story of the Nativity wonderfully with Year 2 accompanying them with beautiful singing and instrument playing. Well done KS1, you have got us into the Christmas spirit.



THANK YOU!

A huge "Thank You" goes to Mrs Ward (Henry Year 5) for taking the time and effort to bring a new lease of life to our very worn but well used Christmas back-drop. Mrs Ward spent a lot of time removing the old stars, cutting out new ones and attaching them to the backdrop. We are extremely grateful to her for her commitment to such a big project, especially as she did this single handedly. It is such an improvement to the old back-drop and really set the scene for all our Christmas performances.



KS2 NATIVITY



All the children in the juniors have worked hard in their individual classes to produce a combined Nativity play to celebrate the birth of Jesus and develop an awareness of some of the different ways Christmas is celebrated around the world. The songs showcase the styles of music from each country represented. Every year, Gabriel and the angels celebrate the birth of Jesus by bringing children from around the world to the manger, to tell of their Christmas customs and to offer gifts to baby Jesus.

In the final scene, the children join hands around the manger, which represents the peace and hope we all have in the world - particularly important for all of us this year.

Thank you to all our families who supported us by providing costumes and props.



ST CLEMENT'S DAY MASS

We had a fabulous celebration for St Clement's Day on the 23rd November. We started off the day with a reflective assembly by Mrs Chappell on the life of St Clement and how he urged people to be kind to each other. Each class then enjoyed designing and decorating their own fish using different art materials, which contributed to our beautiful display.

As a very fitting conclusion to The Feast of St Clement, Year 4 joined together with Fr Graham to celebrate Mass for this very special day. We offered a Bible to represent how St Clement listened to the word of God and said 'Yes,' to Him. It reminds us that we too, should say yes to God. We offered the 'Anchor of St Clement' as a symbol of hope and trust in the Lord. We also offered our Mission Statement, Growing Together in Love and Learning, as a reminder that together, we are growing in God's love and learning to be the best we can be.

St Clement, help us to grow together in love and learning.



ADVENT SERVICES

During Advent, the whole school community has been preparing to celebrate the birth of Jesus by participating in some prayerful Advent services.

Year 6 have created an interactive Advent calendar to help us count down the days to Christmas. Each day they revealed a special challenge or reflection to fill us with awe and wonder for the wonderful world God has created for us.

In the first week of Advent, all the children took part in a class Reconciliation service where they took time to think about their behaviour and any wrong choices they may have made. They also reflected on their Advent promises.



Our wonderful Year 6 have also been leading the whole school in weekly Advent services based around the themes of Hope, Peace and Joy which are represented by the candles on the Advent wreath.

They also guided us through a beautiful crib service in which they led us in prayer and reflections as they built up the nativity scene.

YEAR 6 NEWS

It is so important that every child at St Clement's is taught to take responsibility for their school and to contribute positively both to the school and wider community. To enable this to happen we choose Year 6 Leaders. This year our team consists of the Head Boy and Deputy Head Boy, Head Girl and Deputy Head Girl, Primary Ambassadors, Prefects and House Captains. Together, they will work to improve the school and suggest solutions to various dilemmas.

This year our roles reflect the changes we are currently undergoing due to Covid-19 and now, more than ever, the children are having to find new ways of leading and nurturing all children within the school; acting as a pupil voice and ensuring that they still develop their sense of responsibility and lead by example, enabling even the youngest children to know that they are safe and growing in love and learning.

We are delighted to have appointed this year's Primary Leaders Team and consider all of these roles to be of great importance. We know that all the children will act as true ambassadors for our school as well as role models for their peers and our younger pupils. Every year 6 child was invited to apply for a role, doing so in writing initially, then also making a presentation to their class and teachers.

We are very proud to announce the following appointments:

Head Girl
Head Boy

Julia
George

Deputy Head Girl
Deputy Head Boy

Amischa
Connor

Primary Ambassadors

Cieran
Sam
Mia
Joshua

Prefects

Reception: Adam, Star, Vincent

Year 2: Benjamin, Grady

Year 4: Karam, Amischa, Connor, Jamie

Year 6: Julia, George

Year 1: Roman, Kaylah

Year 3: Frankie, Luca

Year 5: Eloise, Alibi

House Captains

St Benedict

Leo, Raul

St Francis

Aidan, Charlotte, Joshua

St Clare

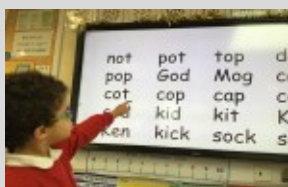
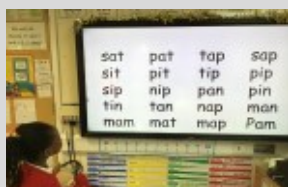
Dillon, Megan, Freddie

St Margaret

Asher, Lavina, Sebastian

CAFOD CHRISTMAS GIFTS

This Advent the children have been thinking about the wider world and how we can give the gift of love to those in need. Each class has been raising money to buy different CAFOD world gifts for people in other countries who do not have the money to buy these 'gifts' for themselves. The children really enjoyed taking part in these fundraising events and together they raised a phenomenal £1644.80 for CAFOD. Well done children, you should be extremely proud of yourselves as you have really shown the **gift of love** to others this Christmas.



In Reception, each child read as many words as they could in one minute using their sounding and blending and our class total for 30 minutes was 444 words!

Year 1 worked very hard at reading 30 Tricky Words. They all got excellent scores and should be very proud of their achievement.



Year 2 carried out a sponsored walk in the playground.

A part of Year 3's CAFOD fundraising, Year 3 ran a 'Guess the Amount of Sweets in the Jar' competition. Guesses ranged from 10 sweets to 163 sweets. The lucky winner was Oliver, with his guess of 124, which was nearest to the total number of 121. Well done Oliver! We would like to thank all the children and family members who also took part in this competition. We raised £35.50, which is included in our class total. Well done everyone.



Year 6 worked hard at learning 104 very tricky spellings



Year 4 and 5 built on their fantastic fitness skills by completing the daily mile.

ANTI BULLYING WEEK

Monday 16th-Friday 20th November

St Clement's took part in The Anti-Bullying Alliance's themed week for 2020: United Against Bullying. We marked the start of the week with Odd Socks Day and the children were emblazoned with colourful odd socks for the day! Throughout the week, each class participated in different Anti-Bullying activities including: designing odd socks, posters, making jigsaw puzzle pieces and we all talked about how everyone is unique, we all have many qualities which makes us special and we all fit together. Well done to all the children at St Clement's for supporting such a worthwhile cause.



ANCHOR AWARD WINNERS

Congratulations to the following children who received awards at our Anchor Assembly this half term;

Year 6	Vincent, Leo, Joshua, Eloise, Charlotte and Frankie H
Year 5	Ben, Lily, Dan, Lola, Charlie and Sonia
Year 4	Raphael, Lara, Isabella, Marta M and the whole of Year 4
Year 3	Alex, Piroska, Valentina, Amelia, Blue and Joseph B
Year 2	Bertie, Lucie, Malachi, Bailey, Chloe and Luke
Year 1	Jack, Lily, Joseph, Kamila, Hanna and Jan
Reception	Amaira, Ted, Jagoda, Eleanor, Emma and Ella-Rose

Anchor Assembly takes place every two weeks on a Thursday morning. Please return Anchor badges to your child's class teacher on the morning of the next Anchor Assembly.

SCIENTIST OF THE TERM

Each class teacher has selected a pupil from their class who is their Scientist of the term. This could be for excellent scientific knowledge, super investigating or enquiry skills and/or enthusiasm. Each child received a special certificate and an applause for their achievement. An overall winner was chosen from a hat. The overall winner has received a Science experiments box. Below are the class Scientists of the term and the overall winner. Well done to all.

Reception: Sophia

Year 1: Thomas

Year 2: Jacob

Year 3: Sylvie

Year 4: Jeanette

Year 5: Ethan

Year 6: Connor

Overall Winner: Jacob

LABCOAT COMPETITION

Last year the children in St Clement's took part in a lab coat competition where they had to design their own lab coat with scientific images. From the entries, Mrs Kelly and Mrs James selected a handful to be sent through to the next round of the competition, to Baylab Laboratories. There was a Junior section and an Infant section. There was a delay with the announcement of the winners due to current events, but we are pleased to announce that we had a runner up and a winner for the Infant Section. The winner and runner up have received a Science box, card board cut out of their design and bottle, pencil and ruler. The winner will also receive an embroidered lab coat with their name and a set of 35 infant labcoats for the school. Congratulations go to our winner, Erin and our runner up, Ariadne. Thank you to all who took part in the competition.



ATTENDANCE AWARD



The reward of an extra-long play time last Friday went to Year 5 with an attendance of 99.7%.

Year 6 won the best overall attendance this term with 99.2% and received an extra-long play today.

BOOK PRIZES

The following children have been awarded book prizes for their hard work and positive attitude this term. Our book prizes are awarded termly by each class teacher to one child who they think has gained confidence, self-esteem and shown resilience and determination to succeed. This award is only given once in your child's career at St Clement's.

Year 6 Cieran
Year 5 Henry W
Year 4 Theo
Year 3 Valentina
Year 2 Camilla
Year 1 Oscar
Reception Ted



VALUES AND VIRTUES AWARD

This half term we have spent time as a whole school reflecting on the meaning of the values of honesty, truthfulness and mercy. We have thought about how we see these values in action in our lives and in the lives of others. We have also thought about how we can work to encapsulate these values in our lives.

Well done to those children who received our Values and Virtues award at the Anchor Assembly this half term:

Year 6 Ailbi, Eloise and Kaylah
Year 5 George, Laila and Leo
Year 4 Lara, Archie and Eva
Year 3 Joseph B, Oliver and Erin
Year 2 Bailey, Ariadne and Oliver
Year 1 Lily, Emily HS and Jack
Reception Jacob, Mason and Penny

THE FRIENDS OF ST CLEMENTS

The Friends have been very busy this term and have been very creative in their fundraising under current restrictions. On behalf of the whole school community, I would like to say thank you for your continued efforts to raise funds for the school. The children have really enjoyed the mufti days and the smarties challenge. The quiz nights were a huge success with parents and it was a lovely way to help our parent community to stay connected with one another. We are blessed to have such a committed, hardworking FOST and we are so grateful for the continuous support that they provide to St Clement's.

POPPY APPEAL UPDATE

The school raised a fantastic total of £331.06 for The Poppy Appeal.

Thank you to all those who donated for their generosity.



SAVE THE CHILDREN CHRISTMAS JUMPER DAY



On Christmas jumper day the children raised an amazing £195 for the charity 'Save the children.' It was lovely to see the children in their festive jumpers and hats!

LUNCH COSTS

The cost of school lunches will remain at **£2.40** per day. The price of school lunches for years 3-6 (KS2) from Monday 4th January to Thursday 11th February is **£69.60** payable by ParentMail.

Any changes in the new term from packed lunch to school dinners or vice versa requires a week's notice to the School Office.

APPLICATION FOR RECEPTION 2021/22

A reminder that the application deadline is the the 15th January 2021. Please ensure that you complete our supplementary information form which is available on the school website.

Thank you for all your kind wishes and gifts that the staff have received, they are very much appreciated.

Our new term begins on **Monday 4th January 2021** and we look forward to seeing the children return refreshed and eager to learn in the New Year.

Finally, I would like to wish all the children and families, from all the staff and governors, a very happy and holy Christmas holiday.